

*Central Presbyterian Church*  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
March 17, 2024 at 11:00 am ET



# Gathering

Prelude

Phillip Morgan

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

Call to Worship

Rev. Kerry Clements

One: O people of God, hope in the God of Love!

**All: For with God there is steadfast love  
and great power to redeem.**

One: Wait for the Holy One.

**All: With our whole being we wait for God  
more than those who watch for the morning.**

\* Hymn No. 435

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”  
IN BABILONE

Congregation

Prayer of Confession (**unison**)

**Holy God, you enter into our lives  
in ways we don’t expect.**

**Often we cannot see how your way can work, or be right,  
because it is so contrary to our ambition and understanding.**

**Forgive us for projecting our narrow views on you  
and expecting you to live up to our way of doing things.**

**Forgive us for not trusting your way of peace.**

**Take our lives that we may learn to lay them down in your service,  
following your way even when we do not understand.**

(a time for silent prayer)

Assurance of God’s Promise

One: The good news is this: God hears our cries.

God forgives our sin. God restores us.

Jesus the Christ, who came to save, leads us on the path of peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Song of Thanksgiving

“We Are Forgiven”

Congregation

Hymn No. 447

WE ARE FORGIVEN

## The Journey

### Welcoming a New Member

One: There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

**All: one Creator of all, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Parent of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.**

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,  
promise to guide and nurture Olivia,  
by word and deed,  
with love and prayer? **We do.**

Will you encourage her to know and follow Christ  
and to be a faithful member of Christ's church? **We will.**

### Affirmation of Faith

**In life and in death we belong to God.**

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.**

**With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us  
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

from A L

### \* Passing the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you!**

\* Song of Community  
Hymn No. 695

“Change My Heart, O God”  
CHANGE MY HEART

Congregation

## Listening

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Psalm 130

One: The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Ann Deibert

## Responding

\* Hymn No. 791

“For You My God, I Wait”

Congregation

SPRINGTIME

Prayers of Intercession & The Lord’s Prayer

Offering (*To make a donation please see the options on the back page of the bulletin.*)

Anthem

“I Love the Lord, He Heard My Cry”

Chancel Choir

arr. Richard Smallwood

\* Doxology

“Take, O Take Me as I Am”

Congregation

Hymn No. 698

TAKE ME AS I AM

\* Prayer of Commitment

\* Hymn No. 543

“God Be the Love to Search and Keep Me”

Congregation

GREEN TYLER

\* Benediction

One: And all God’s people said,

**All: Amen!**

Postlude

Phillip Morgan

*Thank you to Rev. Kerry Clements for Serving as today’s liturgist.*

### **Permissions**

Cover Art:

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## **Welcome New Member**

**Lauren Milligan**

9000 Crowne Springs Circle, unit 203  
Louisville, Kentucky 40241

piratecha1@gmail.com  
(502) 330-0870

Lauren shares: I am the mother of Livvy (Olivia Milligan). I am a stay at home mom. I enjoy creating art with my daughter, singing with my mom, yoga and listening to music. I am the daughter of Larry and Stacy Moore. I am originally from Frankfort, KY. I have lived in Louisville/Indiana/ and back to Louisville since 2009. I am really looking forward to continuing to sing in the choir (Phillip Morgan is amazing!), listening to Ann preach as well as guest preachers, and getting involved in church outreach. I am really excited for my daughter and me to have a church family. I have found that Central is incredibly accepting and loves all people which is what drew me to it.

# 435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy, like the wide-ness  
2 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sures

of the sea. There's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice,  
of the mind. And the heart of the E-ter-nal

which is more than lib-er-ty. There is no place where earth's  
is most won-der-ful-ly kind. If our love were but more

sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place  
faith-ful, we would glad-ly trust God's Word, and our lives re-

where earth's fail-ings have such kind-ly judg-ment given.  
flect thanks-giv-ing for the good-ness of our Lord.

These stanzas, excerpted from quite a few more, offer a reminder that the model for our dealings with others should be God's generosity rather than limited human tolerance. The text is effectively set to a broad and sturdy Dutch folk melody, probably from the 17th century.

447

## We Are Forgiven

G Am D7 Gsus G C

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to

G Am7 Dsus D G Am

God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.

D7 Gsus G C G Am7 D G

We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

To sing, rather than simply say, a response to the Declaration of Forgiveness has the effect of making the moment both more affirmative and more corporate. The musical repetition of the two sentences also strengthens awareness of what it means to be assured of God's pardon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text  
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1995  
 Music © 1995 Hal H. Hopson

WE ARE FORGIVEN  
 10.8.10.8

# Change My Heart, O God 695

*Cámbiame, Señor* 항상진실케

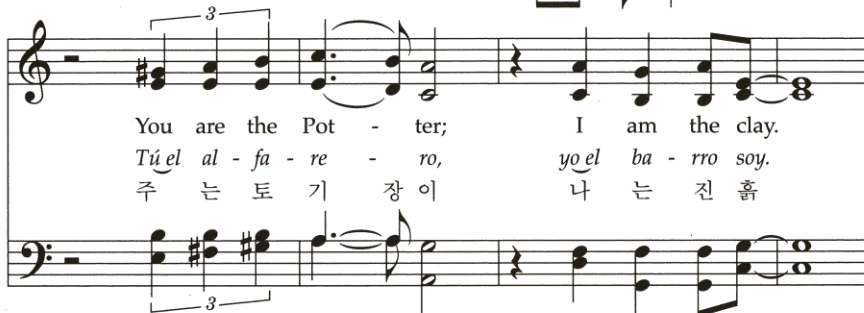
Refrain / Estribillo / 후렴



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.  
*Cám - bia - me, Se - ñor,* con tu gran po - der.  
 항 상 진 실 케 내 맘 바 꾸 사



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. *Fine*  
*Haz - me co - mo tú,* tu yo quie - ro ser.  
 주 님 의 모 습 닻 게 하 소 서



You are the Pot - ter; I am the clay.  
*Tú el al - fa - re - ro,* yo el ba - rro soy.  
 주 는 토 기 장 이 나 는 진 흙



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.  
*Só - la a tu i - ma - gen,* quie - ro siem - pre ser.  
 날 빛 으 소 서 기 도 하 오 니

to Refrain / al Estribillo / 후렴

The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1-6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.

TEXT: English and Spanish, Eddie Espinosa, 1982;

Korean trans., The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001

MUSIC: Eddie Espinosa, 1982

Text and Music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (admin. in North America Music Services)

CHANGE MY HEART

Irregular



# 791 For You, My God, I Wait

(Psalms 130 and 131)

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B<sup>b</sup> (D) F (D) F



1 For you, my God, I wait with hope born  
 2 Lord, hear my plead - ing voice, and let me  
 3 If you should list my faults, the sins of  
 4 For e - ven from the deep I know you  
 5 And once my soul is still, in you I  
 6 O God, you are my hope; I know that

(G) B<sup>b</sup> (Asus) C<sup>sus</sup> (A) C (Bm) Dm (D/A) F/C



of the Word. Like sleep - less ones who  
 know you hear! As sleep - less ones feel  
 heart and hand, like sleep - less ones who  
 hear my cries. Like sleep - less ones who  
 find my rest, at peace as though a  
 you for - give. Your love re - deems me

(G6) B<sup>b</sup>6 (D/F#) F/A (Em7) Gm7 (G/A) B<sup>b</sup>/C (D) F



long to dream I wait and call my Lord.  
 rest ap - proach, I know my God is near.  
 groan at dawn I know I could not stand!  
 dream at last, I ease my wea - ry eyes.  
 child up - on a gen - tle moth - er's breast.  
 from the depths so I may rise and live.

Unlike most paraphrases of Psalm 130, this one begins in the thematic center of the psalm and works backwards to the familiar "out of the depths" language of the opening verse. This focus on waiting allows the paraphrase to incorporate the imagery of the brief related Psalm 131.

# 698 Take, O Take Me as I Am

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The brevity of this text and tune invite repeated singing, either as a sustained chain of sound or as a sung response in a series of prayers. It offers a more reflective approach to the same theme of self-dedication evident in older hymns such as "Just as I Am" (see no. 442).

# God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me

543

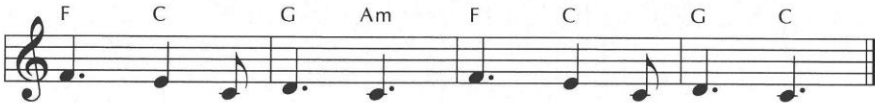
O Christ, Surround Me



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the Name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness-  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light-ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur-round me; O Christ, sur-round me.

This hymn is a 21st-century adaptation of the traditional Celtic prayer style known as a *lorica* (Latin for "armor" or "breastplate"). Many such petitions for God's presence and protection were never written down, but this one is based on an example attributed to St. Patrick.

## Donate:



There are several ways to make a donation to Central today:

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Use the “donate” button on our website: [CentralChurchKY.org](https://CentralChurchKY.org)

Download the Vanco Mobile app in the Apple app store or Google play store

A check or cash can be placed in one of the offering boxes near the sanctuary doors

### Central Presbyterian Church

318 West Kentucky Street 40203 (502) 587-6935

[www.centralchurchky.org](http://www.centralchurchky.org)

#### Parents and Kids:

- Child care is available during the worship service for children 6 years old and younger. Please see a greeter or another parent for the passcode for the child care area.
- Worship bags for kids can be found by the table on the screen side of the sanctuary.
- Books for kids can be found by the table at the back of the pews.
- Faith Formation for Families (kids, parents, grandparents, caregivers) happens monthly after worship. Connect with Ann Deibert for more information.

#### Our Church



**Matthew 25** ([pcusa.org/matthew25](https://pcusa.org/matthew25)) We have committed to building congregational vitality, dismantling systemic racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.



**Peacemaking** ([pcusa.org/peacemaking](https://pcusa.org/peacemaking))



**More Light** ([mlp.org](https://mlp.org)). We welcome the full participation of LGBTQ+ people of faith in the life, ministry, and witness of the Presbyterian Church.



**Four for Four** We support Presbyterian mission around the corner and around the globe through the four church-wide Special Offerings.

**Choice Congregation** We support the rights of all people to access the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare choices without coercion or judgment.

#### Our Staff

Pastor – Rev. Dr. Ann J. Deibert [ann@centralchurchky.org](mailto:ann@centralchurchky.org)

Director of Music – Mr. Phillip Morgan [phillip@centralchurchky.org](mailto:phillip@centralchurchky.org)

Administrative Assistant – Ms. Barbara Creasy [office@centralchurchky.org](mailto:office@centralchurchky.org)

In-person office hours:

Mondays 10am—1:00pm, Wednesdays 2:30pm—5:30pm, Fridays 10am—2pm

Other times by appointment